

NEW PORT RICHEY PARKS & RECREATION
DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

April 12, 2016

7:30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 8, 2016

2. OLD BUSINESS

- FL Sunshine Law and Advisory Board Code
- Fitness Equipment (Old and New)
- Fee Recommendations
- Review Strategic Plan, Mission, & Vision
- Chasco Parade Float
- Video Boards
- Master Plan RFP
- Sports Facilities Advisory Study Up-date

3. NEW BUSINESS

- Elect Advisory Board Secretary
- Volunteer Board Members Breakfast/Mike & Betty Invited
- Summer Sunset Concert Series
- Summer Break Spot Healthy Food Program
- National Kids to Parks Day - May 21st at the James E. Grey Preserve

4. SPECIAL EVENTS

- Summer Camp Registration - April 11th (residents)/April 18th (non-residents)
- Relay for Life - April 16th at Sims Park
- Cotee River Seafood Festival - April 22nd-24th at Sims Park
- 3-Point Shoot-out Basketball Tournament - April 23rd at the Recreation & Aquatic Center
- Wine Down Wednesday - April 27th at Sims Park
- Family Movie Night (Kung Fu Panda 3) - April 30th at Sims Park
- Walk a Mile with City Council - May 7th (8:30am) at Sims Park

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

March 8, 2016

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was called to order at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Board Members Dave Schrader, Carolyn Marlowe, Justin Billings, Bob Smallwood, Betty Black, Joy Phillips, Greg Giordano, and staff liaison Elaine Smith were in attendance. The February meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Regular Advisory Board member, Betty Black announced that she was resigning from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. She left the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Playground Photo Shoot - Was held at Sims Park on Friday, March 4th at 3:30pm. The event went very well; the Mayor was on video; will send pictures soon.
- Recreation & Aquatic Study - Mtg. March 9th & 10th - (A flyer with an announcement of meeting dates and times was distributed to all Advisory Board members); this announcement will be on the City's web page, social media, given to North Bay Hospital employees, the employer for Applicant Insight for circulation, Suncoast News advertisement, and the P & R Advisory Board is invited to attend.
- Reserved Signs at Shelters/Sims Park - There are temporary signs for reservations of shelters.
- A message board for flyers used to be in the park; a new one is needed with a map of downtown activities and places included (Public Works needs to move forward with this).
- Kayak Launches - Public Works oversees the projects; Frances Ave. Park should begin in one month; the Grey Preserve should begin in 2 months (permits need to be pulled). Sims Park had permit issues, but kayak launch will be added to the existing dock.
- Movie in the Park - There were about 600 in attendance; the big screen is great, but sound could be a little louder. Video Boards will be used in windy conditions; conduit is being installed underground for surround-sound. Comments on Facebook that more food/drink should be available; maybe a vendor could be invited to service the event. Lights were installed that may be turned on & off manually.

- August - the movie will be Star Wars and we will give away the Star Wars figures. Suggestion was made that the giveaways are given only to children and the child must be present.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Code and the Florida Sunshine Law - The attorney wants to present these items and was unable to attend today's meeting; will re-schedule to attend next month.
- Parks & Recreation Department Mission & Vision Statement and the Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan (hand-outs) ; Includes Parks and may be re-vamped because the goals are different. Please take with you and review; we will discuss next month.
- Part of the Strategic Plan - Marketing (hand-out) - Shows what we have accomplished and what we are trying to accomplish.
- Another part of the Strategic Plan - SWOT pages (hand-out) - One item that needs to be addressed is the monthly membership fee (too expensive). We want to make it more affordable to become a member; the fees are reviewed every year. *(please send out the current fees and rental costs to all Advisory Board members.) Would like input from Advisory Board.
- Camp Registration Post Card (hand-out) - 1st 75 children registered will get a free t-shirt.
- Skyler Diggins Basketball Camp Tour (flyer hand-out) - WNBA Athlete will do a camp for boys and girls on Saturday, April 9th at the Recreation & Aquatic Center.
- Park Calendars (hand-out) - Please note that the Loquat Festival will be held on March 26th (not March 19th).
- Fitness Center Equipment - Is out to BID; deadline is March 18th. We would like to donate old fitness equipment to GHS; needs to be approved by City Council.
- Parks Master Plan - BID closes March 31st; a firm will be selected, Council approves, then the Advisory Board will be involved (probably May, 2016). *(costs may have to be split into 2 budget years) Some suggestions were made that a swing set would be nice to add at Jasmin Park and possibly a grill; perhaps move these items from Russ Park, as it doesn't get used; and comments were made that Russ Park has become a drug hang-out. Suggestions were also made that more swings be added to Sims Park; however, a study revealed that there was no room to add more swings to Sims Park playground.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Loquat Festival - moved to March 26th at Frances Ave. Park
- Spring Break Basketball Camp - March 21-24 (RAC)
- Easter Events - Saturday, March 26th
- Movie Night - (Good Dinosaur) March 26th at Sims Park
- Chasco Fiesta Street Parade - Saturday, April 2nd
- Chasco Fiesta Boat Parade - Saturday, April 9th

VOX POP

FRPA has selected our agency to highlight in the Journal; Sims Park will be in the December issue. The City has achieved 5 Gold Medals from National League of Cities, Towns, and Counties for its focus on health, wellness & nutrition in the fight against childhood obesity, and for being a Playful City USA community.

Since Sims Park Grand Re-opening, many patrons are using the park for kickball and free-play. Additional signage needs to be posted for keeping dogs out of the Splash Pad, no smoking in certain areas, no children in the Fit Zone; and security cameras to curb purposeful abuse of Fit Zone equipment. Comments were made that maybe a few more grills could be added to Sims Park; that it would be nice to have the park open for everyone to use and not have so many special events going on there. In addition to regular special events, a music series one time per month may be added; Jazz, Children's concert, Dance music, etc. Video Boards must be built; one has been rented for Chasco as the one being built and purchased will not be ready before then.

It would be nice to have new software to pro-rate/ auto debit/charge monthly for membership fees.

Signs need to be posted for Egg Hunt times for Easter.

Homework - Please read and review all hand-outs (fees will be sent out to everyone) and comment.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 7:30am.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna French
(acting P & R Adv. Bd. Secretary)

BMB: dcf

